



New England Agricultural Statistics Service

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United States Department of Agriculture

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A special "THANK YOU" goes to New England producers and agri-businesses who have helped us by completing surveys via mail, telephone or personal interviews. This issue contains the results of monthly and quarterly surveys including the March 2000 Agricultural Survey of crop intentions.

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Potatoes: Stocks & Prices

Field Crops: Corn, Barley, Oats, Hay, Tobacco

Milk: Production & Price

Dairy Products

Chickens: Layers, Eggs & Hatch

1998 HORTICULTURE CENSUS: The results of the first-ever Census of Horticulture was released on March 31, 2000. The report is available on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/. Click on "Census of Agriculture"; on the next screen click on "1998 Census of Horticulture." The census was conducted in all states for all horticulture commodities including annuals perennials, potted flowers, hanging baskets, cut flowers, cut greens, nursery plants, unfinished plants, turfgrass, mushrooms, greenhouse food crops, seeds, bulbs, corms, aquatic plants, Christmas trees, tobacco transplants, and other information about value of sales, land structures, equipment, irrigation, expenses, labor marketing channels, etc.

POTATO STOCKS: Maine potato stocks on hand April 1, 2000 totaled 7.2 million hundredweight (cwt.), 20 percent above 1999's April 1 holdings, but 3 percent below the same period in 1998. Disappearance to April 1 in the state totaled 10.6 million cwt., compared with 12.1 million cwt. a year earlier. Storage accounted for 40 percent of Maine's total production, compared with the previous 5-year average of 35 percent.

April 1, 2000 potato stocks in the 15 major states totaled 128 million cwt, down 3 percent from a year ago and 5 percent below two years ago. Storage accounted for 30 percent of fall production, down 1 percentage point from a year ago.

Disappearance in the 15 major states from the start of harvest to April 1 totaled 293 million cwt this season, up slightly from last year and 5 percent above two years ago. March disappearance of 42.5 million cwt was slightly above last year and 2 percent above two years ago. Seasonal shrink and loss of 27.9 million cwt was up 2 percent from last year and 10 percent above two years ago.

Processing of 1999 crop potatoes so far this season totaled 146 million cwt, down 2 percent from the 1998 crop but 6 percent above the 1997 crop. In March, processors in the eight major States used 20.5 million cwt of potatoes, down 2 percent from last year but 4 percent above 1998.

FIELD CROPS: New England intentions for March 1, 2000 indicated farmers intend to decrease their acreage planted to field corn and tobacco. Hay acreage intended for harvest is also expected to be slightly below 1999. The intentions survey was conducted as of March 1 and represents the acreage farmers intend to plant and/or harvest as of that date. New England farmers expect to plant 217,000 acres of **field corn** in 2000, a decrease of 4,000 acres from 1999 seedings. New England farm operators intend to harvest 641,000 acres for **dry hay** in 2000. This is slightly less than the amount harvested in 1999 which was 645,000 acres. **Oat** growers in Maine plan to seed 36,000 acres and harvest 34,000 acres in 2000, up from 27,000 acres planted and 22,000 acres harvested the previous year. **Barley** growers in Maine intend to plant 20,000 acres this year. Connecticut **broadleaf tobacco** for harvest in 2000 is forecast at 1,450 acres, down slightly from acreage harvested in 1999. Massachusetts broadleaf tobacco acreage is expected to total 1,020 acres, 6 percent above the 1999 harvested acreage total. **Shade tobacco** acreage for harvest in Connecticut and Massachusetts in 2000 is expected to total 1,580 acres, 14 percent below the previous year's harvested acreage.

MILK PRODUCTION: Milk production in Vermont during March 2000 totaled 243 million pounds, up over 4 percent from a year earlier. The daily production per cow averaged 49 pounds, up almost three pounds from March 1999. There were 160,000 milk cows on Vermont farms, down one percent from the same period a year ago.

Milk production during the first quarter (January - March) of 2000 totaled 1.20 billion pounds in New England, up over 2 percent from the first quarter of 1999. The daily production per cow averaged 48 pounds, up two pounds from the same period a year ago. Milk cows on New England farms from January through March averaged 271,900 head, down from the first quarter in 1999.

This is a monthly summary of New England agricultural statistics taken from nationwide reports issued by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service over the past few weeks. All national reports and state-level newsletters are available on the Internet.

National Reports can be ordered by calling 1-800-999-6779.

How can you get these reports electronically?

* All national reports and state newsletters are available on the Internet.

* For free national e-mail reports, send a message to:

usda-reports@usda.mannlib.cornell.edu and in the body, type: **lists**

* For free state newsletters, such as this, send a message to:

nass-state-releases@news.usda.gov and in the body, type:

subscribe new-eng-all-reports OR **lists** for other states.

FALL POTATOES: Production and April 1 Stocks ^{1/2/}, 1999 - 2000

STATE	1998 Crop			1999 Crop		
	Production	Stocks Apr 1, 1999	Stocks as % of Prod	Production	Stocks Apr 1, 2000	Stocks as % of Prod
	1,000 Cwt		Percent	1,000 Cwt		Percent
California	3,708	1,200	32	4,005	1,400	35
Colorado	25,360	9,300	37	25,762	10,100	39
Idaho	138,000	52,000	38	133,330	50,000	38
Maine	18,060	6,000	33	17,813	7,200	40
Michigan	14,648	2,200	15	14,963	2,700	18
Minnesota	21,170	6,700	32	18,020	4,700	26
Montana	3,180	1,740	55	3,325	1,650	50
Nebraska	8,175			8,904		
New York	7,290	350	5	6,758	350	5
North Dakota	28,670	10,500	37	26,400	6,200	23
Ohio	1,200			987		
Oregon	26,229	10,500	40	28,020	13,500	48
Pennsylvania	3,360	420	13	3,080	560	18
Washington	93,225	21,500	23	95,200	20,500	22
Wisconsin	30,895	7,800	25	34,000	7,300	21
Other States		1,010			1,410	
15 STATES	423,170	131,220	31	420,567	127,570	30

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant to the 2000 crop.^{2/} Reliability of the stocks estimate is 5.0 percent. This means chances are 2 out of 3 the current estimate will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 5.0 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 the difference will not exceed 8.6 percent.^{3/} Blank States combined into "Other States".SOURCE: **Potato Stocks**, 3:00 pm, April 13, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received, 1994 - 1999 Crop Years

CROP YEAR	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for All Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average										
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	Market Year Average
	Dollars Per Cwt										
1994	5.65	4.85	5.25	5.70	6.00	6.20	6.25	6.60	6.70	6.15	6.10
1995	5.55	5.25	5.85	6.25	6.25	6.30	6.30	6.60	6.85	7.05	6.40
1996	5.20	4.70	4.90	4.35	4.35	4.65	4.50	4.75	5.05	4.55	4.60
1997	8.10	5.65	5.70	6.10	6.30	6.10	6.35	6.55	6.95	6.75	6.40
1998	6.25	5.40	5.70	5.85	5.90	6.15	6.45	6.90	7.45	7.05	6.45
1999 ^{2/}	5.90	5.30	5.50	6.30	6.40	6.25	6.35	6.50			

^{1/} Average price of potatoes sold for fresh market, processing, seed and feed ^{2/} Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.SOURCE: **Agricultural Prices**, 3:00 pm, March 30, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

FIELD CROPS: 1999 Acreage and 2000 Intentions, New England

STATE	Area Planted for All Purposes			Area Harvested		
	CORN			ALL DRY HAY		
	1999	2000 Intentions as of Mar 1	2000 as % of 1999	1999	2000 Intentions as of Mar 1	2000 as % of 1999
	1,000 Acres		Percent	1,000 Acres		Percent
Connecticut	38	36	95	61	65	107
Maine	33	33	100	162	145	90
Massachusetts	26	25	96	107	110	103
New Hampshire	15	15	100	62	65	105
Rhode Island	3	3	100	8	6	75
Vermont	106	105	99	245	250	102
NEW ENGLAND	221	217	98	645	641	99
U. S.	77,431	77,881	101	63,160	63,052	100

SOURCE: **Prospective Plantings**, 8:30 am, March 31, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

FIELD CROPS: 1999 Acreage and 2000 Intentions, New England

STATE	Area Planted for All Purposes			Area Harvested		
	OATS			BARLEY		
	1999	2000 Intentions as of Mar 1	2000 as % of 1999	1999	2000 Intentions as of Mar 1	2000 as % of 1999
	1,000 Acres		Percent	1,000 Acres		Percent
Maine	27	36	133	1/	20	--
U. S.	4,670	4,351	93	5,223	5,733	110

^{1/} Barley estimates began in 2000.SOURCE: **Prospective Plantings**, 8:30 am, March 31, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

TOBACCO: 1998 - 1999 Acreage Harvested and 2000 Intentions

STATE AND TYPE	Area Harvested			
	1998	1999	2000 ^{1/} Intentions as of Mar 1	2000 ^{1/} as % of 1999
	Acres			
Broadleaf (Type 51)				
Connecticut	1,435	1,460	1,450	99
Massachusetts	925	960	1,020	106
CT & MA Total	2,360	2,420	2,470	102
Shade (Type 61)				
Connecticut	1,380	1,490	1,290	87
Massachusetts	340	350	290	83
CT & MA Total	1,720	1,840	1,580	86
U. S. (All Types)	717,605	644,250	500,700	78

^{1/} Area intended for harvest in 2000 as indicated by reports from farmers.SOURCE: **Prospective Plantings**, 8:30 am, March 31, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, March 2000 with comparisons

STATE	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Production per Cow			Production		
	Mar 1999	Feb 2000	Mar 2000	Mar 1999	Feb 2000	Mar 2000	Mar 1999	Feb 2000	Mar 2000
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Vermont	162	160	160	1,440	1,405	1,520	233	225	243
New York	700	700	700	1,480	1,370	1,520	1,036	959	1,064
Pennsylvania	614	617	618	1,565	1,475	1,620	961	910	1,001
U.S. ^{2/}	7,713	7,766	7,770	1,585	1,505	1,634	12,228	11,691	12,694

^{1/} Average number for the month, including dry cows^{2/} U.S. includes only 20 major states: AZ CA FL ID IL IN IA KY MI MN MO NM NY OH PA TX VT VA WA WI.SOURCE: **Milk Production**, 3:00 pm, April 17, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

QUARTERLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, January - March, 1999 - 2000

STATE	Milk Cows ^{1/}		Production per Cow		Production	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
Connecticut	29	27	4,610	4,760	134	129
Maine	42	40	4,130	4,190	173	168
Massachusetts	25	24	4,210	4,310	105	103
New Hampshire	19	19	4,285	4,340	81	82
Rhode Island	2.0	1.9	3,970	4,080	7.9	7.8
Vermont	162	160	4,136	4,413	670	706
NEW ENGLAND	279.0	271.9	4,197	4,398	1,170.9	1,195.8
New York	701	700	4,233	4,340	2,967	3,038
Pennsylvania	615	617	4,418	4,618	2,717	2,849
U.S.	9,128	9,186	4,437	4,637	40,505	42,591

^{1/} Average number for the quarter, including dry cowsSOURCE: **Milk Production**, 3:00 pm, April 17, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY MILK: Average Price Received and Fat Test, March 2000 with comparisons

STATE ^{4/}	All Milk Price ^{1/}			Fat Test		
	March 1999	February 2000	March 2000 ^{2/}	March 1999	February 2000	March 2000 ^{2/}
	Dollars Per Cwt			Percent		
Connecticut	16.70	-	-	3.70	-	-
Maine	17.00	-	-	3.71	-	-
Massachusetts	16.90	-	-	3.76	-	-
New Hampshire	16.80	-	-	3.78	-	-
Rhode Island	16.80	-	-	3.72	-	-
Vermont	16.50	13.40	13.50	3.73	3.78	3.75
NEW ENGLAND	16.65	-	-	3.73	-	-
U.S. ^{3/}	15.00	11.80	11.80	3.72	3.76	3.73

^{1/} Before deductions for hauling and government withholding. Includes bulk-tanks, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.^{2/} Most recent monthly price and butterfat test are preliminary mid-month forecasts.^{3/} U.S. includes only 20 major states: AZ CA FL ID IL IN IA KY MI MN MO NM NY OH PA TX VT VA WA WI.^{4/} Due to the Federal Market Order Reform, NASS is only able to publish milk prices for the 20 states which are part of the national program at this time. Statistics for the other New England states will be published as soon as they become available.SOURCE: **Agricultural Prices**, 3:00 pm, March 30, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, February 2000 with comparisons

PRODUCT	February 1999	January 2000	February 2000	February 2000 as percent of:	
				February 1999	January 2000
	1,000 Pounds			Percent	
Butter	3,962	3,717	3,821	96	103
American Type Cheese ^{1/}	5,187	5,756	5,439	105	94
Mozzarella Cheese	2,960	5,615	4,219	143	75
Other Italian Cheese ^{2/}	659	500	665	101	133
Cottage Cheese ^{3/}	476	483	515	108	107
	1,000 Gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream, Hard	5,303	6,801	7,753	146	114
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	296	513	455	154	89
Milk Sherbet, Hard	239	167	243	102	146

^{1/} American Type Cheese includes cheddars, Colby, washed curd, stirred curd, Monterey and Jack.^{2/} Includes all Italian cheese except Mozzarella.^{3/} Creamed and lowfatSOURCE of NATIONAL PRODUCTION: *Dairy Products*, 3:00 pm, April 3, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production, February, 1999 - 2000

STATE	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ^{1/}		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ^{1/}		Egg Production from All Layers ^{1/}	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 Birds				Number		Million Eggs	
Connecticut	2,927	3,009	3,105	3,143	2,061	2,164	64	68
Maine	4,739	4,128	4,860	4,236	2,222	2,219	108	94
U.S.	257,478	264,852	322,797	329,892	1,946	2,019	6,281	6,662

^{1/} Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.SOURCE: *Chickens & Eggs*, 3:00 pm, March 21, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

MONTHLY CHICKENS: Hatchery Production, December, 1999 - 2000

REGION	Broiler-Type Chicks				Egg-Type Chicks			
	Hatched during Feb		Hatched Jan - Feb		Hatched during Feb		Hatched Jan - Feb	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 Birds							
NEW ENGLAND	613	358	1,300	867	718	759	1,458	1,456
U.S.	661,739	700,967	1,397,087	1,450,342	35,648	35,491	71,301	69,616

SOURCE: *Chickens & Eggs*, 3:00 pm, March 21, 2000, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

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